

Abstract

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Title: Signs of the temporolimbic dysfunction in gamblers

Background: The aim of this thesis was to determine whether pathological gamblers exhibit symptoms related to epileptic spectrum disorder.

Methods: To investigate, symptoms of the temporolimbic dysfunction were examined by means of the structured questionnaires CPSI (Complex Partial Symptoms Inventory) and LSCL-33 (Limbic System Checklist-33). Mann-Whitney U test and Spearman's correlation coefficient were used for statistical evaluation.

Results: The mean score in the questionnaire CPSI of gamblers was 38,9 points, which is an abnormal score. With the questionnaire LSCL-33, the mean score of 21,5 points, corresponds to suspected findings. From the mean results it can be concluded that pathological gamblers may have a higher incidence of the symptoms of the temporolimbic dysfunction. When comparing the groups of gamblers with smokers, it was evaluated that in the questionnaire CPSI was a statistically significant difference between the appearances of symptoms of epileptic spectrum disorder, while it was not in the questionnaire LSCL-33.

Conclusion: Gamblers exhibited a higher incidence of symptoms of epileptic spectrum disorder. However, due to the low number of respondents, I recommend a research group for pathological gamblers to repeat the questionnaires with a higher number of respondents.

Keywords: epilepsy spectrum disorder, pathological gambling, hyperirritability, limbic system